



STATE OF CONNECTICUT – COUNTY OF TOLLAND
INCORPORATED 1786

TOWN OF ELLINGTON

Emergency Management Department

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JOSEPH PALOMBIZIO
Emergency Management
Director

JOHN STREIBER
Deputy Director

FREDERICA WEEKS
Deputy Director

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (EMAC)

November 4, 2019 2:00 PM Town Hall Annex

MINUTES

Councilors Present: Joseph Palombizio, Emergency Management Director; Erin Graziani, Director, Ellington Senior Center; Timothy Webb, Director of Public Works; Joy Hollister, Human Services Director; Patrick Kenton, The Computer Company; Patrick Getler, North Central District Health Department (NCDHD); Peter Hany, President, Ellington Volunteer Ambulance Corps (EVAC); James York, Fire Marshal; Rebecca Einsiedel, Julia Connor, Recording Secretary

1. CALL TO ORDER – 2:01 PM
2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Meeting of September 9, 2019

MOVED (WEBB), SECONDED (HANY) AND PASSED [AYE:
PALOMBIZIO/GRAZIANI/WEBB/HOLLISTER/KENTON/HANY/YORK; ABSTAIN:
GETLER] TO APPROVE THE SEPTEMBER 9, 2019 EMAC MINUTES.

3. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Update – Security Testing for Ellington Computer Users (KNOWB4)

Patrick Kenton reported that the security testing program was implemented about a year ago, and the percentage of users clicking on malicious and phishing emails has decreased significantly. The annual Security Awareness Training will be reintroduced to all users in the next month or so.

B. Update – School Security Programs

As Sergeant Santa and Brian Greenleaf were absent, there was not much discussion on this topic. James York reported that from a fire code perspective, keeping the doors open or unlocked in an emergency situation is compliant, as the intention is to allow

individuals to get outside the building; it also allows emergency personnel to get inside to assist any potential victims. However, it allows potential assailants full access to the building as well. The issue is still being discussed amongst those involved with creating the All Hazards Safety Plan and has not yet been fully resolved.

C. Report on Active Shooter Exercise – October 19, 2019

Mr. Palombizio shared that this exercise at Ellington High School involved both fire departments, EVAC, Connecticut State Police, mutual aid from Vernon and Tolland, and state evaluators; Ellington High School drama students volunteered to act as victims. The exercise was a full-scale active shooter scenario, with first responders being released into warm zones to attend to victims. The communication between the emergency service agencies and the police presence was commendable; for a first-time exercise, it went well.

D. Ellington Rescue Task Force Personnel/Equipment

There is specific equipment designed for first responders entering into warm zones; Mr. Palombizio reported that they are still working through the process of acquiring this gear.

4. NEW BUSINESS

A. North Central District Health Department Updates

The NCDHD just entered into a new five year contract for Public Health and Emergency Preparedness Grant Program, which has shifted toward a focus of all of Region 3; they will be working with the Capitol Region Council of Governments (CRCOG) and the Capitol Region Emergency Planning Council (CREPC). The NCDHD is accredited through the National Association of City and County Health Officials (NACHHO); they will be making sure that their point-of-dispensing (POD) sites line up appropriately within the region.

B. Emergency Management/CERT/Shelter Updates

Mr. Palombizio reported that new cots are being provided for the shelters.

C. Test of Town Everbridge Emergency Notification System

A phone call, email and/or text notification will be sent out on Thursday, November 21 as a test of the Everbridge Emergency Notification system.

5. ROUNDTABLE – INPUT FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS

Joy Hollister shared that Human Services is in the midst of checking up on their emergency contact list; there is a child with major health issues who would potentially need more assistance in the event of an extended power outage or other issue. Her focus in these scenarios is proactive in helping these individuals be prepared for an

extended period of time. The EVAC building, as the main Emergency Operations Center, is an option for those who may need access to a safe space with power.

The recent storms have caused quite a few trees and wires to be downed in a couple of heavily trafficked areas in Town; there was discussion about the inadequate response from Eversource to these incidents. Ellington had the second highest number of power outages in the state.

Peter Hany reported that the new ambulance is in the body shop after being hit by another driver. An EVAC crew along with Tim Webb and a contingent from Public Works accepted awards at the Connecticut State Police Training Academy for the lifesaving efforts involved in saving Shawn Bull's life back in June.

Tim Webb reported that preparations for winter weather has begun, and urged everyone to exercise caution in diverse weather conditions and to be careful entering and exiting vehicles and buildings.

6. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED (WEBB), SECONDED (HANY) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 2:37 PM.

The next EMAC meeting is scheduled for 2:00 pm on Monday, January 6, 2020.

Submitted by:


Julia Connor